

Message Text

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QUOTE

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SECTION 1 OF 6

FROM OASD/PA

FOR INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MORNING NEWS BRIEFING, FRIDAY,

JANUARY 11, 1974, 11 A.M.

1. NOBODY ON THE HILL. CONGRESS IS STILL IN RECESS.

2. YESTERDAY, SINCE WE DIDN'T BRIEF BECAUSE OF THE SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON APPEARANCE, THERE WAS MADE AVAILABLE THE JOINT STATEMENT AFTER THE MEETING WITH THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE: ALSO AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE AIR FORCE ON THE DEACTIVATION OF THE LAST AIR FORCE B-66 UNIT: AND A TRANSCRIPT OF ADMIRAL MOORER'S TODAY SHOW INTERVIEW .

3. TODAY WE HAVE THE REGULAR LIST OF THE 500 LARGEST R&D CONTRACTORS FOR FY'73: MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS RANKS NUMBER ONE IN R&D CONTRACTS.

4. NEW ASSIGNMENTS FOR ARMY GENERAL OFFICERS.

5. I'D LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT TODAY, AS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED BY CINCLANTFLT IN NORFOLK, THE CARRIER AMERICA UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS JOINED THE SIXTH FLEET AND THAT WILL BE NORMAL ROTATION WITH

THE INDEPENDENCE DEPARTING THE SIXTH FLEET SHORTLY.

Q: HOW MANY SHIPS DOES THIS MAKE?

A: LET ME GET YOU AN UP-TO-DATE NUMBER: IT'LL BE AROUND 45, I THINK. IF IT'S OTHER THAN 45, WE'LL LET YOU KNOW.

Q: IS IT A TWO-CARRIER FLEET -- IT WILL BE AFTER THE INDEPENDENCE LEAVES, OR ARE THERE THREE?

A: THERE WILL BE TWO WHEN THIS ROTATION IS COMPLETED. (FDR AND AMERICA).

Q: ARE THE HELICOPTER CARRIERS WITHDRAWN?

A: THEY'RE BOTH STILL THERE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. WE'LL DOUBLE CHECK THAT FOR YOU.

Q: WHAT'S THE APPARENT SIZE OF THE SOVIET'S FLEET IN THE MED?

A: IN THE 60'S AND IF THAT'S NOT CORRECT, WE'LL POST A LITTLE BOXSCORE FOR YOU. I DIDN'T LOOK AT ALL THOSE NUMBERS THIS MORNING, BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S CHANGED.

Q: ARE ANY OF OUR REDEYE'S MISSING?

A: NO, NOT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE.

Q: LET'S PURSUE THIS: IT'S A VERY DELICATE MATTER IN EUROPE. NONE FROM OUR ALLIES ARE MISSING?

A: NOT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE: THE NATO PEOPLE HAVE CHECKED ON THAT AND HAVE NO REPORTS OF ANY BEING MISSING, NO.

Q: NOR ANYTHING LIKE THAT: I MEAN, OR ANY TYPE OF MISSILE OR WEAPON?

A: THEY CHECKED BECAUSE THERE WERE SOME STORIES OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS IN BELGIUM OR SOME PLACE ON THAT SUBJECT.

Q: THIS IS GETTING TO BE A PRETTY SOLD MISSILE, IS IT NOT? STILL THAT SENSITIVE?

A: IF YOU SHOOT IT AT SOMETHING IT CAN GET VERY SENSITIVE.

Q: ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL SECURITY PRECAUTIONS TAKEN TO PROTECT REDEYE WHEN IT IS IN STORAGE?

A: YES.

Q: COULD YOU ELABORATE ON WHAT THEY ARE?

A: NO.

Q: FOR EXAMPLE, DO YOU STORE ALL OF THE COMPONENTS TOGETHER?

A: I DON'T WANT TO GO INTO DETAILS OF THE SECURITY, BUT THAT MISSILE HAS BEEN ONE THAT WE'VE ALWAYS RECOGNIZED REQUIRED SOME SPECIAL SECURITY ATTENTION AND WE'VE PROVIDED THAT IN THE NATO UNITS THAT HAVE ALSO PROVIDED IT.

Q: THIS STORY WAS SUDDENLY FALLACIOUS NOW, I TAKE IT? THERE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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ABSOLUTELY NO U.S. MISSILE IN THE HANDS OF EXTREMISTS, TERRORISTS, INSURGENTS, WHATEVER, ANYWHERE?

A: DOUBLECHECKING WITH THE NATO PEOPLE TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANY BASIS FOR THAT STORY, WE FOUND NO REPORTS OF ANY NATO MISSILES BEING MISSING. NONE OF OURS ARE MISSING.

Q: REPORTS ARE WHAT?

A: WE FOUND NO REPORTS OF ANY NATO MISSILES BEING MISSING, NOR ANY OF OURS BEING MISSING.

Q: WHY HAVE YOU FELT THAT IT NEEDED REQUIRED SPECIAL SECURITY MEASURES?

A: WELL, IT IS A SMALL WEAPON. A PERSON COULD EASILY LEARN HOW TO USE IT AND IT IS ONE THAT COULD BE SHOT AT ANY AIRCRAFT THAT HAPPENED TO BE PASSING OVER, IF SOMEBODY HAPPENED TO HAVE ONE. IT IS NOT UNLIKE THE SOVIET SA-7 MISSILE WHICH IS AS YOU KNOW HAS BEEN REPORTED FROM TIME-TO-TIME TO BE IN THE HANDS OF SOME TERRORISTS. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THAT'S EVER BEEN CONFIRMED OR NOT.

Q: WHEN YOU SAY THAT NONE OF OUR MISSILES, NOR YOU'RE GOING BEYOND THE REDEYE, AREN'T YOU, TO SAY THAT NONE OF OUR MISSILES ARE MISSING?

A: REDEYE IS WHAT WE SPECIFICALLY CHECKED ON HERE: THERE'S NOTHING ELSE THAT HAS QUITE THE SAME CAPABILITIES.

Q: THE BELGIUM FOREIGN MINISTER THE OTHER DAY IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HAND-HELD ROCKETS HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM A BASE IN EUROPE BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND THAT SOME HAD BEEN RECOVERED. WAS THE BELGIUM FOREIGN MINISTER MISINFORMED?

A: I JUST REALLY CAN'T ADDRESS THAT. I DIDN'T SEE THAT REPORT. WE CHECKED AND WERE ADVISED THAT THERE WERE NOT ANY REDEYE'S MISSING, THAT ANY OF OUR PEOPLE COULD FIND OUT ABOUT.

Q: WEREN'T THERE SOME SAM-7'S CAPTURED IN ITALY -- I THINK ABOUT FIVE OF THEM? THE REPORT WAS THAT THERE'S SIX OR SEVEN STILL LOOSE IN EUROPE?

A: I RECALL THAT INCIDENT, AS YOU DO. I BELIEVE IT WAS THE ITALIAN POLICE AT THAT TIME THAT DID PICK UP SOME SA 7'S SOVIET MADE MISSILES. BEYOND THAT, I DON'T REMEMBER THE DETAILS.

Q: MR. SCHLESINGER INDICATED YESTERDAY THAT WE NOW ARE TARGETING SOVIET MILITARY INSTALLATIONS OR FACILITIES WITH OUR ICBMS. I WONDERED IF THAT WOULD INDICATE THAT WE NOW HAVE THE CAPABILITY THAT WE HAVE BOTH THE MISSILES AND THE WARHEADS THAT COULD CARRY OUT MILITARY TARGETING.

A: YES.

Q: WHAT IS IT THAT HE NEEDS BEYOND THAT? IF WE HAVE THAT CAPABILITY

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ITY NOW, WHAT ELSE DO WE NEED?

A: AGAIN, WITHOUT GOING COMPLETELY OVER THIS HERE AS WE DID YESTERDAY, HE INDICATED TO YOU THAT WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO US IS TO KEEP OUR TARGETING DOCTRINE CONSISTENT WITH DETERRENCE ACROSS THE TOTAL SPECTRUM OF POSSIBLE NUCLEAR THREATS. THAT WE WANT TO DETER THREATS TO OUR CITIES AND WE WANT TO DETER THREATS ON U.S. AND ALLIED MILITARY FACILITIES AS WELL, AND WE HAVE TAKEN SOME STEPS IN OUR TARGETING TO ASSURE THAT WE HAVE DETERRENCE OF BOTH COUNTER-CITY AND COUNTER-FORCE FOR THE FUTURE. IT'S A SUBJECT FOR SALT AS HE POINTED OUT. FOR THE FUTURE, W
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